REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated October 4, 2005 in which the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), objected to claims 2-4 and stated that claims 7-13 are allowed.

As indicated above, claim 1 has been amended in order to make explicit what is implicit in the claim. The amendment is unrelated to a statutory requirement for patentability. In addition, objected to claim 2 has been rewritten into independent form.

Claim 1 claims that a current supply circuit for supplying an output current according to an input voltage to a signal line. The circuit comprises a current driving portion, a voltage holding portion, a current compensating portion and an input transmitting portion. The current driving portion is provided to supply the output current to the signal line, in which a passing current changes according to a voltage of a control node. The voltage holding portion is for holding the voltage of the control node. The current compensating portion is for setting the control node to a voltage corresponding to a reference current by passing the reference current to the current driving portion in a first operation mode in which an input node is set to a predetermined initial voltage. The input transmitting portion, in a second operation mode which is executed after the first mode and in which the input node receives transmission of the input voltage, is for changing the voltage of the control node held by the voltage holding portion, by a voltage according to a change in the voltage of the input node between the first and second operation modes.

Through the structure, the claim invention having an input transmitting portion which changes the voltage of the control node held by the voltage holding portion by

a voltage according to the change in the voltage of the input node between the first and second operation nodes, as claimed in Claim 1, the claimed invention provides a current supply circuit which supplies an output current after compensating the characteristics of the current driving portion based on a reference current, even when the element characteristics vary at the time of manufacture, the voltage current conversion characteristic can be maintained uniform. The prior art does not show, teaches or suggests invention as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 1, 5, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by *Suzuk*i (U.S. Patent No. 6,369,786).

The Examiner characterization of *Suzuki* is that the pre-charging voltage Vt corresponds to an input node set to a predetermined initial voltage claimed in claim 1. Furthermore, the Examiner characterizes signal electrode SiE in *Suzuki* as the input transmitting portion claimed in claim 1. Furthermore, the Examiner characterizes switches S1, S2...in *Suzuki* as corresponding to a control node claimed in claim 1. Finally, the Examiner characterizes column 5, lines 27-40 of *Suzuki* to a change from a first operation mode to a second operation mode claimed in claim 1. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner characterization of *Suzuki*. Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in *Suzuki* shows, teaches or suggests an input transmitting portion for changing the voltage of a control node held by a voltage holding portion, by a voltage according to a change in the voltage of the input node between first and second operation modes as claimed in claim 1. In particular, based upon the Examiner's characterization, the signal electrode SiE (input transmitting portion characterized by the Examiner in *Suzuki*) changes a voltage of the control node (switches S1, S2... in Suzuki) by a voltage according to a change in

voltage of the input node (signal electrode SiE corresponding to the claimed input node in *Suzuki*) between the first and second operation modes. In other words, nothing in *Suzuki* shows, teaches or suggests the features identified by the Examiner operating in the manner as claimed in claim 1 for the input transmitting portion.

Additionally, based upon a change in operation mode (column 5, lines 27-40), and a voltage-current property shown in Fig. 5 of *Suzuki*, *Suzuki* discloses a configuration in which an output current is directly changed based upon the voltage of the signal electrode SiE. Figure 5 of *Suzuki* shows a voltage-current property of an organic EL element whose anode is connected to a signal electrode SiE. Applicants respectfully submit that the output current of a current supply circuit disclosed in *Suzuki* will be changed under the influence of variations in property of the organic EL element. However, in the supply circuit according to claim 1, the first operation mode in which a current driving portion operates to output a reference current is provided, and thereafter, a second operation mode in which the current driving portion actually outputs the output current according to an input voltage is provided. The input voltage is not directly applied to the control node that determines the output current of the current driving portion, and the claimed input transmitting portion changes the voltage of the control node by a voltage according to a change in voltage of the input node between the first and second operation modes. With the configuration of the present invention as claimed in claim 1, the current driving portion in the second operation mode determines the output current in accordance with a relative voltage difference obtained in the first operation mode in which the current driving portion actually operates to output the reference current. As a result, it is possible to eliminate variations in property of the element in the

current driving portion (drive transistor) to obtain a uniform property of the input voltage and the output current (see Fig. 5 of the present invention).

Applicants respectfully submit that the reason why *Suzuki* separately sets the first operation mode (pre-charging) in which switches C1, C2...transmit the pre-charging voltage Vt to the signal electrode SiE and the second operation mode in which the switches S1, S2...transmit a voltage V to the signal electrode SiE is to allow the organic EL to emit light quickly. (Col. 5, lines 27-40). The gray-scale representations in *Suzuki* (see Figures 3A and 3B) are provided by controlling the light-emission period by time division. Accordingly, it is expected in the current supply circuit disclosed in *Suzuki* that the input voltage V is constant and that the output current also takes a constant value. Therefore, nothing in *Suzuki* shows, teaches or suggests an input transmitting portion as claimed in claim 1 in order to obtain a uniform property of an input voltage and an output current by eliminating variations in property of the element.

Since nothing in *Suzuki* shows, teaches or suggests an input transmitting portion for changing the voltage of a control node held by a voltage holding portion, by a voltage according to a change in the voltage of the input node between the first and second operation modes as claimed in claim 1, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 5 and 6 depend from claim 1 and recite additional features. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 5 and 6 would not have been anticipated by Suzuki within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) at least for the reasons as set forth above. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Since objected to claim 2 has been rewritten into independent form, Applicant's respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the objection to claim 2-4.

The prior art of record, which is not relied upon, is acknowledged. The references taken singularly or in combination could not anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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